Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's 2014 Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This addition covers all testing completed from January 1 through December 31, 2014. This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

The City of Rockmart draws its water from wells, approximately 290ft deep, pumping clear, cold (64 degrees year round) water from the Newalla Limestone and Knox Group aquifer.

Source water assessment and its availability

Our Source Water Assessment is listed as not a High Vulnerability type water source.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Variance and Exemptions

City of Rockmart has been issued a waiver on testing for certain inorganic compounds from January 1, 2014 to midnight December 31, 2016 due to low potential risk situation.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

If you have any questions about this report or comments concerning your water system, please contact The City of Rockmart at P.O. Box 231, Rockmart, Georgia 30153 or by calling 770-684-5454. If you want to learn more, please attend our regularly scheduled council meetings. They are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers located in the Municipal Building.

Description of Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated in a "treatment train" (a series of processes applied in a sequence) that includes coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. Coagulation removes dirt and other particles suspended in the source water by adding chemicals (coagulants) to form tiny sticky particles called "floc," which attract the dirt particles. Flocculation (the formation of larger flocs from smaller flocs) is achieved using gentle, constant mixing. The heavy particles settle naturally out of the water in a sedimentation basin. The clear water then moves to the filtration process where the water passes through sand, gravel, charcoal or other filters that remove even smaller particles. A small amount of chlorine or other disinfection method is used to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water before water is stored and distributed to homes and businesses in the community.

Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. City of Rockmart Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

	MCLG	MCL,						
	or	TT, or	Your	Ra	nge	Sample		
Contaminants	MRDLG	MRDL	Water	Low	<u>High</u>	<u>Date</u>	Violation	<u>Typical Source</u>
Disinfectants & Disin	Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products							
(There is convincing 6	evidence th	at additio	n of a dis	sinfect	ant is n	ecessary i	for control o	f microbial contaminants)
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	1.29	0.68	1.29	2014	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Organic Carbon(% Removal)	NA	TT	100	NA		2014	NO	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contamin	ants							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.13	0.7	1.13	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.2	NA		2014	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Microbiological Contaminants								

Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	1	0	NA	2014	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	0.3	100	NA	2014	No	Soil runoff

100% of the samples were below the TT value of 0.3. A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation. The highest single measurement was 0.1. Any measurement in excess of 1 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.

			Your	Sample	# Samples	Exceeds		
Contaminants	MCLG	<u>AL</u>	<u>Water</u>	Date	Exceeding AL	<u>AL</u>	Typical Source	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	2.5	2012	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.18	2012	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

Undetected Contaminants

The following contaminants were monitored for, but not detected, in your water.

	MCLG or	MCL or	Your		
<u>Contaminants</u>	MRDLG	MRDL	Water	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	ND	INIO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	ND	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Unit Descriptions						
Term	Definition					
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)					
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (μg/L)					
NTU	NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.					
positive samples/month	positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive					
NA	NA: not applicable					
ND	ND: Not detected					
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.					

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant
MCLG	in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to
	health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

For more information please contact:

Contact Name: Eddie Mitchell

Address: P.O. Box 231

Rockmart, GA 30153 Phone: 770-684-5256

E-Mail: emitchell@rockmart-ga.gov Website: www.rockmart-ga.gov